

Remarks

Claims 26-50 are now pending in this application. Applicants have amended claims 26, 27, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 39-42, and 48 to clarify the present invention. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application.

The amendments to claims 26, 33, and 40 to recite a "pure" grid structure are supported by the specification at page 8, lines 15-21, which state that, "In a preferred embodiment of the invention the grid structure is preferably formed as a surface grid structure on the substrate, and the manufacture takes place preferably by means of embossing." In describing an alternative embodiment, this passage states, "The invention is not, however, restricted solely to pure surface grid structures, but the grid structure according to the invention can also be protected with a protective layer" (emphasis added). Thus, the specification supports claims directed to an embodiment that includes an embossed pure surface grid structure that is not protected with a protective layer.

Additionally, Applicants have amended claims 31 and 42 to replace the term "paperboard" with the term "cardboard", which is a more accurate translation of the Finnish word "kartonki" in the PCT application as filed.

Applicants have amended the claims to remove the language objected to by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 26-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent 5,142,384 to Woods et al. in view of U.S. patent 5,223,357 to Lovison.

The combination of Woods et al. and Lovison does not suggest the present invention as recited in claims 26-50 since, among other things, the combination does not suggest a pure embossed grid structure, that is, an embossed structure on the surface of a substrate without a protective layer. Rather, Woods et al. suggests a film sheet that includes a Lippmann-Bragg reflection hologram. Lippmann-Bragg holograms are volume holograms. In volume holograms, a holographic effect is created by periodic structures that are inside a film sheet. Therefore, Woods et al. does not suggest an embossed grid structure.

Similarly, Lovison suggests display signage that includes a flat transparent substrate and a textured holographic film behind the substrate, as described at col. 2, lines 48-66, and as shown in Fig. 2. Therefore, Lovison also does not suggest the use of an embossed grid structure without a protective layer. Thus, leaving an embossed holographic film without a protective layer is non-obvious, and against the teaching of Lovison.

Since neither Lovison nor Woods et al. suggests the use of an embossed structure on the surface of a substrate without a protective layer, the present invention as recited in claims 26-50 is not obvious in view of the cited references. By using pure embossed grid structures, the present invention as recited in claims 26-50 makes possible the mass-production of disposable packages including the embossed structures at very low manufacturing costs.

In view of the above, the references relied upon in the office action, whether considered alone or in combination, do not suggest patentable features of the present invention. Therefore, the reference relied upon in the office action, whether considered alone or in combination, do not make the present invention obvious. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present invention is patentable over the cited references and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections based on the cited references.

If an interview would advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants respectfully urge the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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